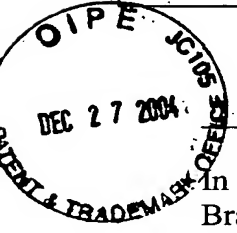


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 12/23/04 Signature: [Signature]
(Ginny Blundell)

Docket No.: MIN-P01-001
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Braun et al.

Application No.: 10/822562

Filed: April 9, 2004

For: PATHOGEN IDENTIFICATION METHOD

Confirmation No.: 2610

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Sir:

Prior to commencement of prosecution on the merits in the above application, please enter the following amendments:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this response.